

Minutes from 12 December 2006 DOE/NRC Video Teleconference Call on Section 3116

Implementation Activities

Attendees: Representatives from DOE-Savannah River (DOE-SR), DOE-Headquarters (DOE-HQ), and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) participated in a video teleconference call from 2:00 – 4:00 on 14 December 2006. A conference phone line was planned for other DOE field office participation (Idaho, West Valley, Office of River Protection), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IV (EPA-IV), and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC). However, technical difficulties prevented participation from all except SCDHEC.

Discussion: The participants discussed prioritization of generic and specific technical issues to be resolved and a potential schedule for future meetings to discuss resolution and path forward. Agreement was reached that there is some overlap between the generic and specific topics and that meetings on these topics should be scheduled to support one another, i.e. generic technical topic resolution should occur to support certain specific technical topic discussions.

DOE proposed a 5-tier prioritization of the specific technical topics. Some clarification was provided pertaining to specific technical topics that would be included under conceptual model topics and the hydrogeology topic. NRC staff resource concerns were expressed, given the Section 3116 activities that NRC staff plans to conduct for both the Savannah River Site and Idaho National Laboratory over the next several months. Attendees agreed to maximize use of conference calls and video conferences to minimize travel and resource impacts.

Summary: The following summarizes the discussion during the video conference:

1. NRC staff will continue reviewing DOE's proposed enhanced consultation process for SRS waste determinations. NRC staff will notify DOE-HQ of status, issues, and recommended changes.
2. DOE-HQ will work with NRC staff to finalize the prioritization of the generic topic list and schedule meetings.
3. DOE-SR will finalize agenda and meeting specifics with attendees (DOE-SR, NRC, SCDHEC & EPA) for the first specific technical topic meeting scheduled for 12 – 16 February 2007 in Columbia, SC. DOE-SR will distribute input packages to participants for the February meeting.

4. DOE will provide information to NRC staff regarding the process for agency-to-agency meetings. DOE-SR will schedule additional specific technical topic meetings following completion of actions items 1 and 2. Further discussion and finalization of a schedule anticipated to occur at the first meeting in February.